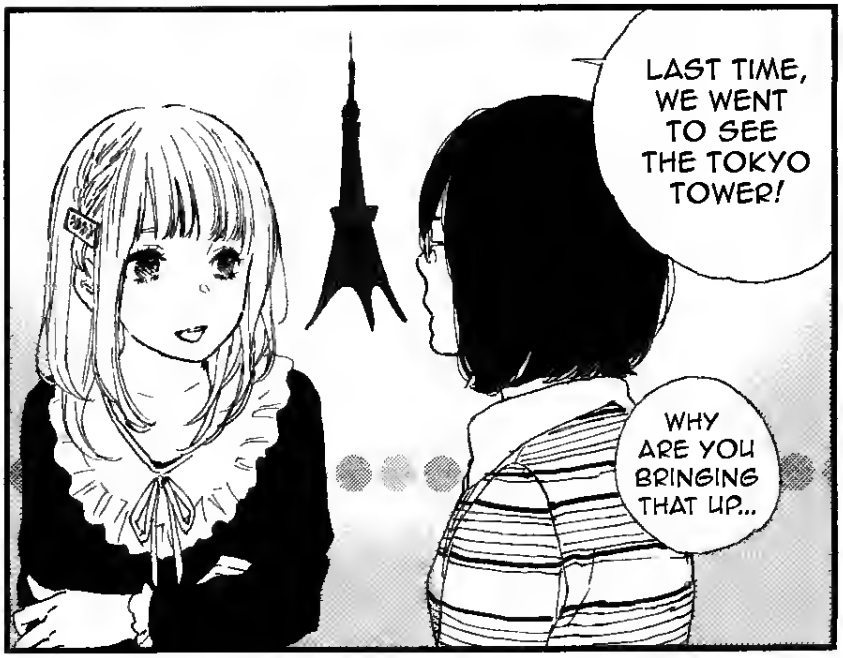
Chapter 43

GUESS WORK ISN'T THE ONLY PLACE WHERE YOU CAN'T KEEP YOUR WORD.
...!
AND ANYWAY, KAWAGUCHI-SAN... YOU KEEP ON COMING RIGHT UP TO TOKYO, HUH!
ALL THE WHILE SAYING YOU WON'T!
TAKEDA-SAN, DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE NOT HAPPY TO SEE HER! ☆
I'M HER ASSISTANT! I SEE HER ALL THE TIME! A LITTLE TOO MUCH, ACTUALLY!
HEY...
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
GOOD QUESTION... WHAT DID I COME FOR?
SO, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
OH, THERE WAS THAT CELL PHONE PICTURE...
AH, BUT THAT GOT SETTLED ALREADY.

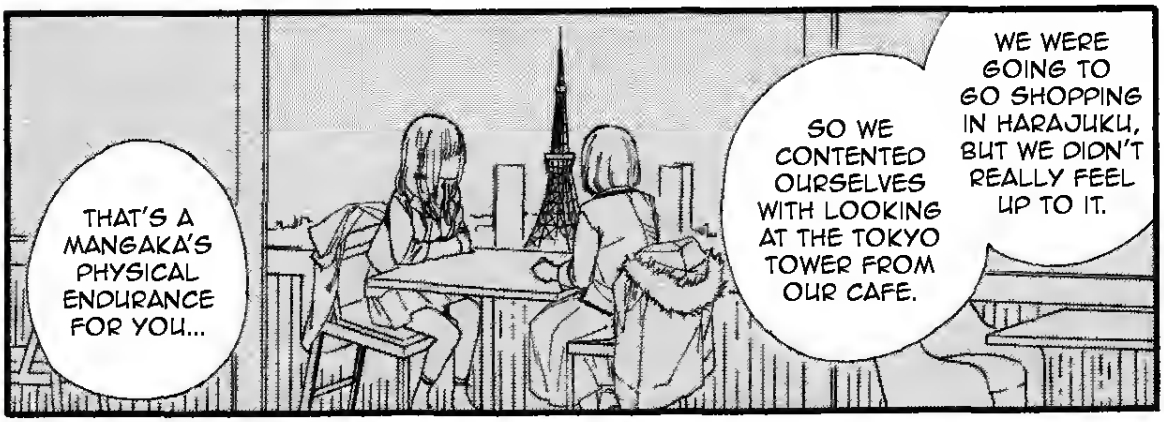
MAYBE WE COULD BOTH HELP OUT WITH TAKEDA-SAN'S MANU-SCRIPT?
WHAT A WONDER-FUL IDEA!
NO!! THANK YOU!!
I'LL DO IT MYSELF!!
YOU REMINDED ME, THOUGH... I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I MENTIONED THIS OR NOT, BUT...
UNTIL THEN, I WON'T BE AVAILABLE FOR ASSISTANT WORK AS OFTEN.
WHAT!? I NEVER HEARD ABOUT THAT!!
I HAVE A NEW EDITOR NOW.
HE WANTS TWO SHORT STORIES FROM ME BY THE END OF THE MONTH.
WAIT A MINUTE HERE... WHAT ABOUT MY SCHEDULE!
YOUR "SCHEDULE"? (LOL) DID YOU CONFUSE YOURSELF WITH SOMEONE ELSE?

I'M SERIOUS ABOUT THIS, SO WE WON'T BE GOING OUT TO PLAY, EITHER.

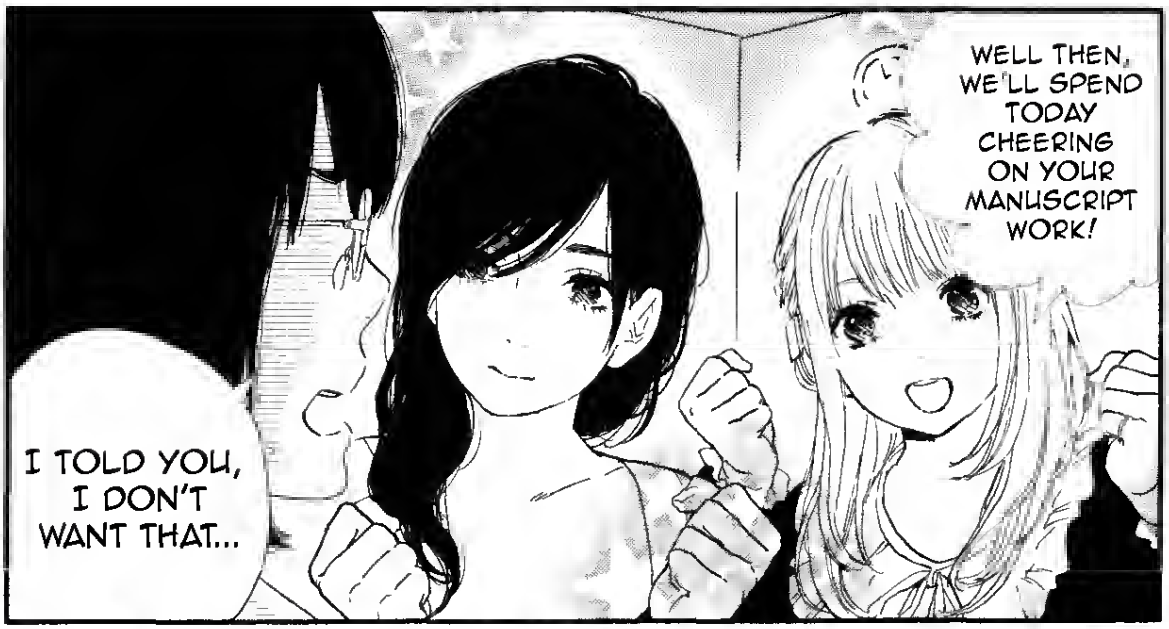
SO, THAT MEANS YOU'LL BE STAYING HOME FOR A WHILE, TAKEDA-SAN?
YAY! THINGS'LL BE WAY LESS LONELY AROUND HERE!

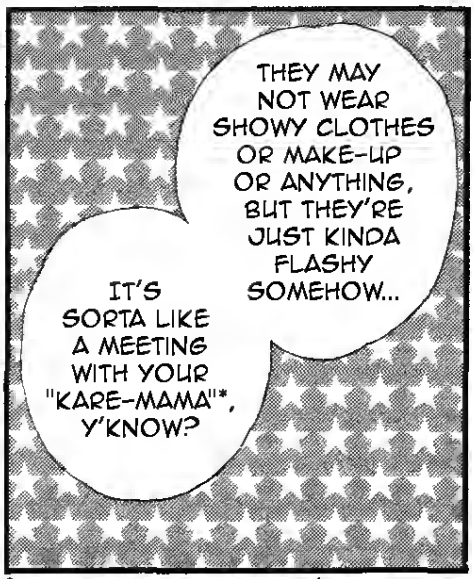

LAST TIME, WE WENT TO SEE THE TOKYO TOWER!
WHY ARE YOU BRINGING THAT UP...

AND DON'T COME INTO MY ROOM.
HOW LONELY...
WAIT, YOU TWO GO OUT PLACES TOGETHER?

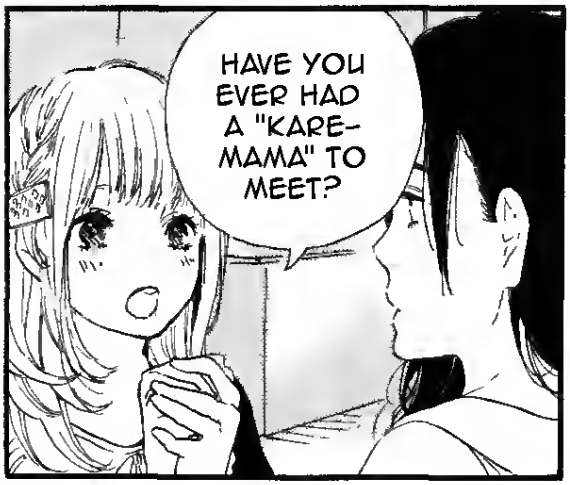

WE WERE GOING TO GO SHOPPING IN HARAJUKU, BUT WE DIDN'T REALLY FEEL UP TO IT.
SO WE CONTENTED OURSELVES WITH LOOKING AT THE TOKYO TOWER FROM OUR CAFE.
THAT'S A MANGAKA'S PHYSICAL ENDURANCE FOR YOU...

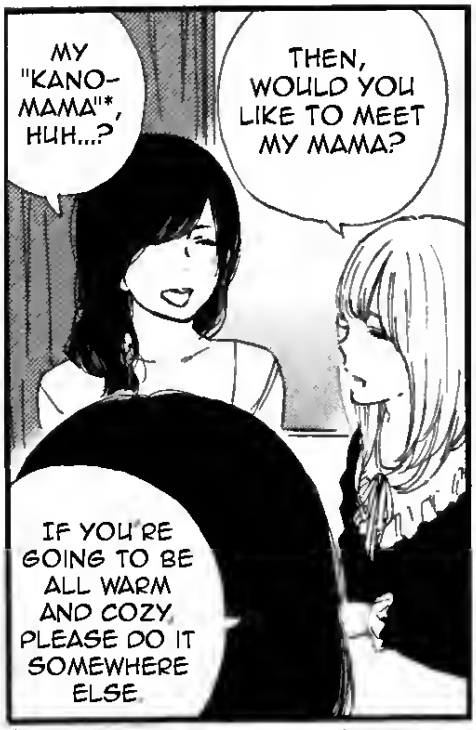
IF I CAN'T GET PUBLISHED BY THE TIME I GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL, I HAVE TO GO TO COLLEGE, EVEN IF IT TAKES ME A YEAR TO GET IN.
THAT'S THE DEAL I MADE WITH MY MOTHER.
BUT... IF YOU'D TOLD ME EARLIER, I COULD'VE MADE TIME FOR YOU TO WORK ON YOUR MANUSCRIPT...
WELL, HONESTLY I'VE HAD A LITTLE TOO MUCH FUN BEING YOUR ASSISTANT,
SO I MIGHT NOT HAVE LEARNED AS MUCH AS I COULD'VE.
HOLD ON A SECOND! YOUR GRADUATION IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!
I KNOW. THAT'S WHY THIS IS SOMETHING LIKE MY LAST CHANCE.
IF I HAD IT MY WAY, I WOULD'VE BEEN SACHI-SAN'S FULL-TIME ASSISTANT, ANYWAY!
USE HER HELP, MORISHITA...
AHH... IT'S JUST FASTER TO DO IT MYSELF...



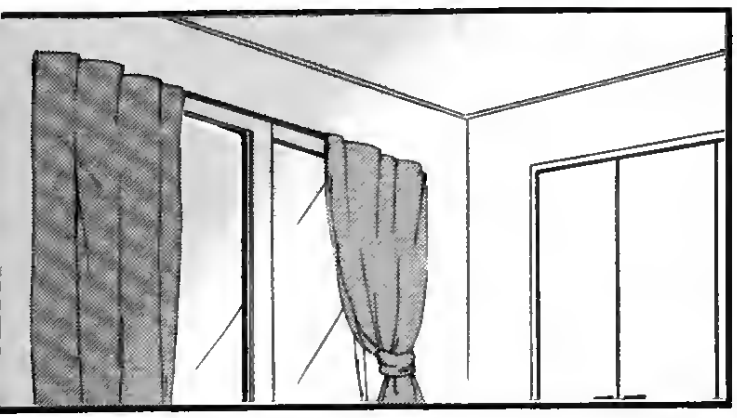

IT'S SORTA LIKE A MEETING WITH YOUR "KARE-MAMA"*, Y'KNOW?
THEY MAY NOT WEAR SHOWY CLOTHES OR MAKE-UP OR ANYTHING, BUT THEY'RE JUST KINDA FLASHY SOMEHOW...

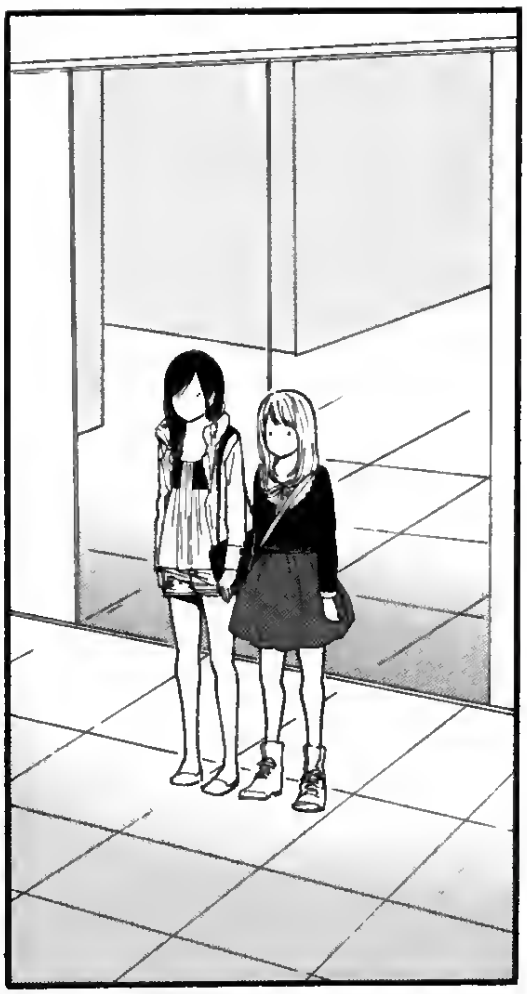
*KARE-MAMA: YOUR BOYFRIEND'S MOTHER

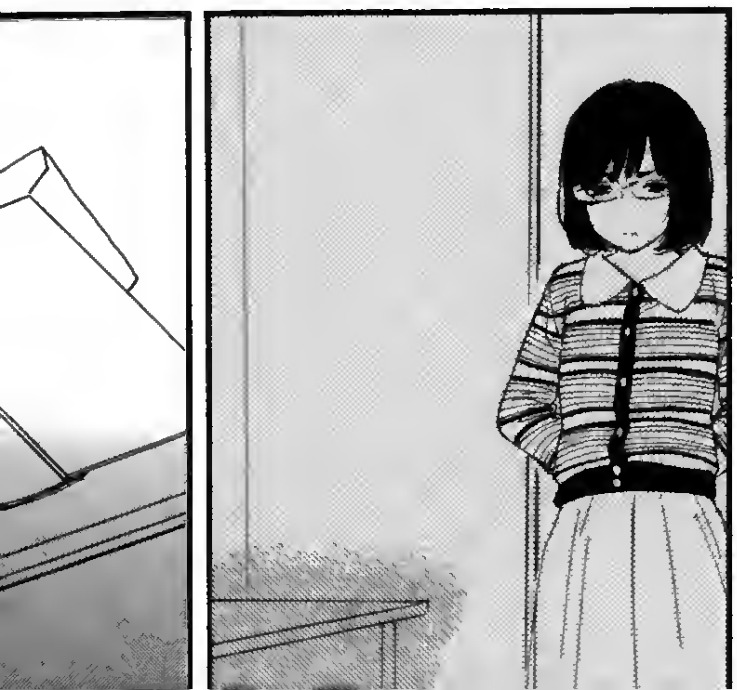




*KANO-MAMA: YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S MOTHER







College
I TOLD YOU TO COME BACK THE FIRST OF THE MONTH, BUT YOU NEVER CAME AT ALL.
YOU MUST BE HAVING FUN WITH YOUR ROOM SHARE.
...I'M SORRY.

WASTE TOO MUCH MORE TIME, AND IT'LL ALREADY BE TOO LATE.
IT'S TIME TO THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH YOUR FUTURE.
I TOLD YOU I'D SUPPORT YOU IN WHAT YOU WANTED TO DO, RII-CHAN, BUT...
YOU'RE EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD NOW.
I LET YOU MOVE TO THAT APARTMENT BECAUSE I THOUGHT EXPERIENCE LIVING INDEPENDENTLY WOULD BE GOOD FOR YOU.

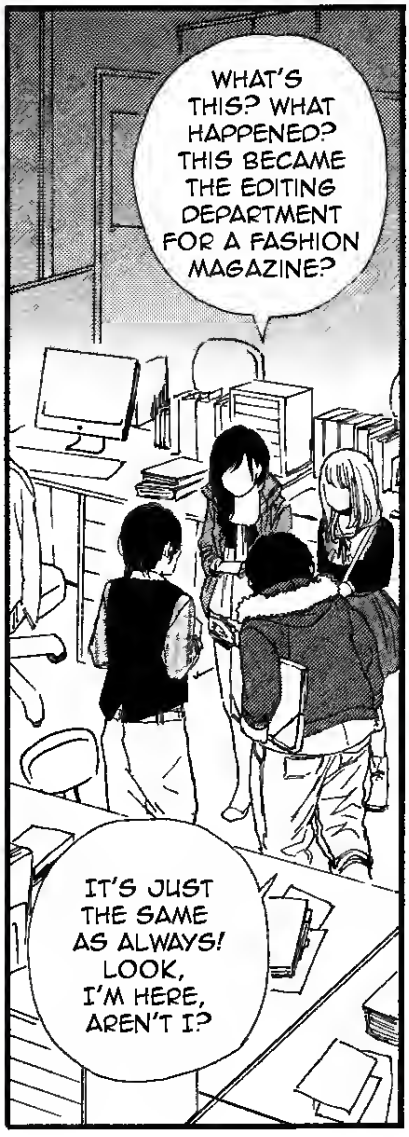
SO IT WOULD BE NICE TO SEE SOME PROGRESS IN THAT AREA.
.....
I REALIZE MYSELF THAT IF I'M GOING TO QUIT, NOW IS THE TIME.
SO DON'T WORRY.
IF...
IF TAKEDA-SAN DOESN'T GET PUBLISHED IN TIME, WILL SHE QUIT DRAWING MANGA?
HUH?
I DON'T KNOW. I CAN'T SPEAK FOR TAKEDA-SAN... YOU'LL HAVE TO ASK HER.

I'M NOT BRAVE ENOUGH TO ASK HER MYSELF!!
YOU'RE NOT BRAVE ENOUGH TO GO INTO THE EDITING DEPARTMENT, EITHER...
I WAS ABLE TO GET MY WORK PUBLISHED, BUT...
I NEVER ONCE THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I WOULD'VE DONE IF I COULDN'T.
YOU'VE GOT NATURAL TALENT, MORISHITA, SO...
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING BUT MANGA. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE I COULD DO.

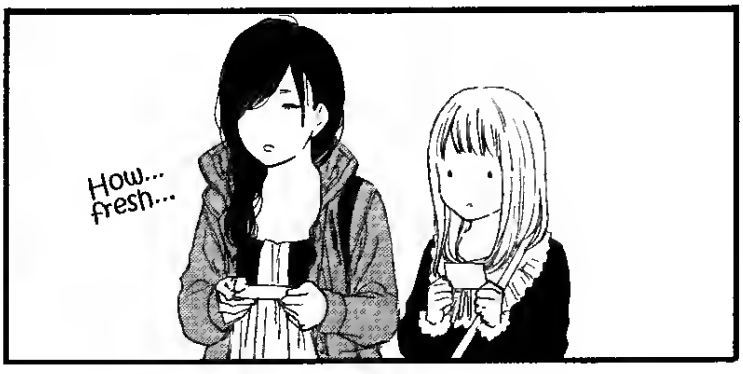
YOU CAN'T JUST DO THINGS HALF-ASSED LIKE ME.
TAKEDA-SAN'S THE SAME TYPE AS ME, SO SHE'S PROBABLY GOT ALL SORTS OF THINGS RUNNING THROUGH HER MIND RIGHT NOW, BUT...
IF THIS IS WHAT SHE WANTS TO DO, I'M SURE SHE'LL KEEP AT IT UNTIL SHE MAKES IT HAPPEN.
SHE PROBABLY HASN'T THOUGHT ABOUT WANTING TO DO ANYTHING ELSE.
ANY MORE THAN YOU OR I HAVE.

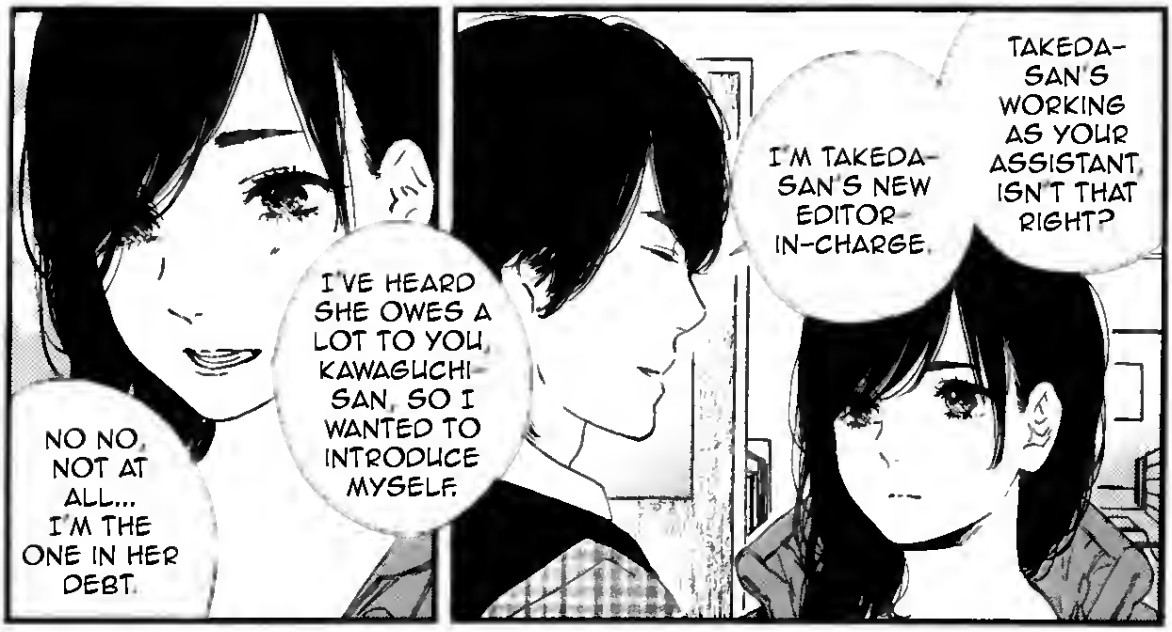
OF COURSE. YOU'RE RIGHT.
TOCHI HA
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME INSIDE?
SACHI-SAN AND KAWAGUCHI-SAN?
.....
OH!

WE JUST HAPPENED ON SOMETHING THAT LOOKED JUST THE RIGHT HEIGHT TO SIT ON! WE WEREN'T AFRAID TO GO IN OR ANYTHING!
Excuse
HA HA HA...
OUR NEW EDITOR WAS JUST SAYING HE WANTED TO MEET YOU, KAWAGUCHI-SAN.
MEET ME?


WHAT'S THIS? WHAT HAPPENED? THIS BECAME THE EDITING DEPARTMENT FOR A FASHION MAGAZINE?
IT'S JUST THE SAME AS ALWAYS! LOOK, I'M HERE, AREN'T I?

NICE TO MEET YOU!
I JUST TRANS-FERRED INTO THIS DEPARTMENT. THE NAME'S NITTA.

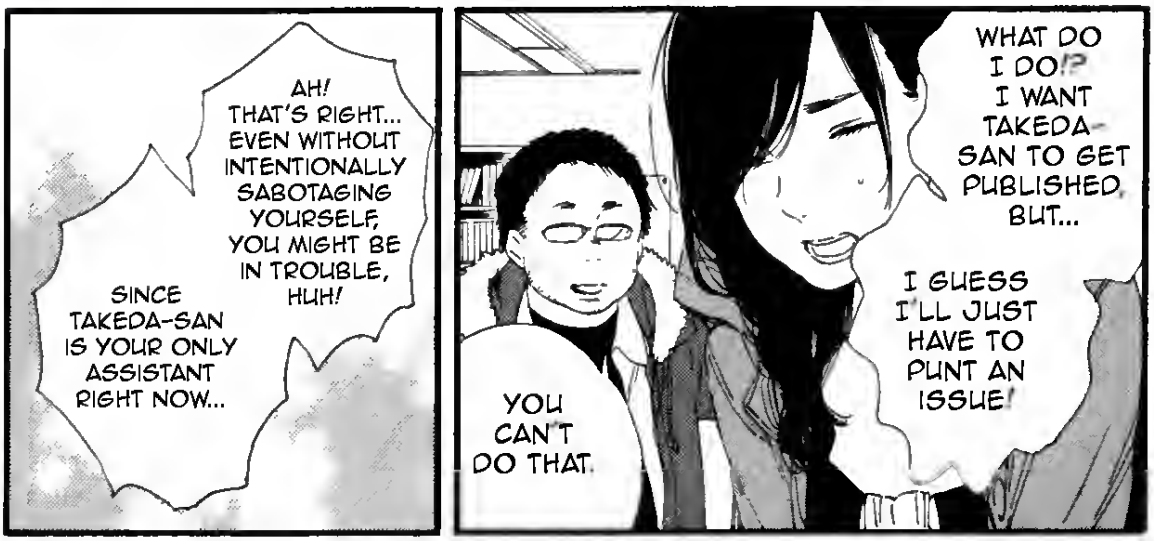

How... fresh...

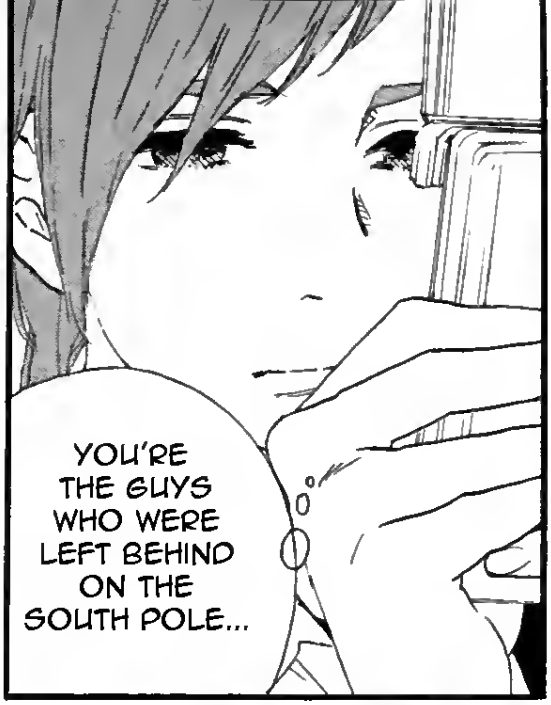

NO NO, NOT AT ALL... I'M THE ONE IN HER DEBT.
I'VE HEARD SHE OWES A LOT TO YOU, KAWAGUCHI-SAN, SO I WANTED TO INTRODUCE MYSELF.
I'M TAKEDA-SAN'S NEW EDITOR-IN-CHARGE.
TAKEDA-SAN'S WORKING AS YOUR ASSISTANT, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

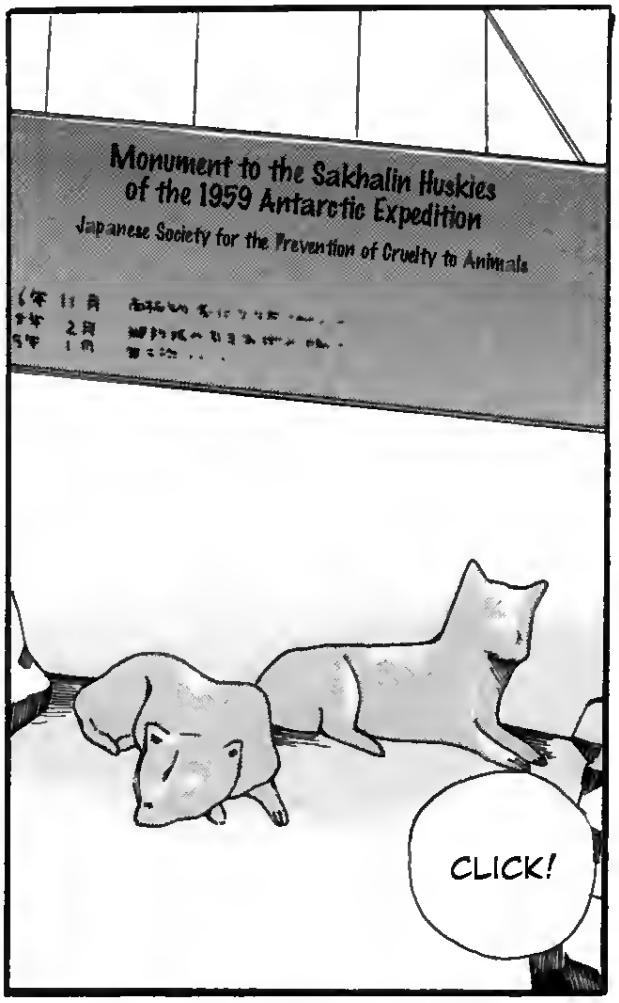
SHE MIGHT BE ABLE TO MAKE HER DEBUT QUICKER THAT WAY.
YES, INDEED! I FIGURED IF I COULD AT LEAST GET HER MANUSCRIPTS TO HOLD ON TO,
SO, IT SEEMS TAKEDA-SAN HAS BECOME RATHER BUSY LATELY?

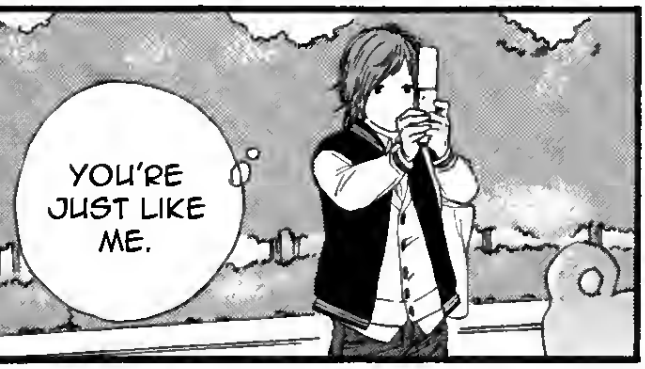
YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN A LAST-MINUTE REPLACEMENT WORK MIGHT BE NEEDED!

IF YOU GET DROPPED FROM THE ISSUE, MY WORK WILL MAKE IT IN, SO NO WAY I'M HELPING YOU OUT.
DON'T TELL ME... THAT WAS HER WAY OF SAYING...


AH! THAT'S RIGHT... EVEN WITHOUT INTENTIONALLY SABOTAGING YOURSELF, YOU MIGHT BE IN TROUBLE, HUH!
SINCE TAKEDA-SAN IS YOUR ONLY ASSISTANT RIGHT NOW...
WHAT DO I DO!? I WANT TAKEDA-SAN TO GET PUBLISHED, BUT...
I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO PUNT AN ISSUE!
YOU CAN'T DO THAT.


YOU'RE THE GUYS WHO WERE LEFT BEHIND ON THE SOUTH POLE...


Monument to the Sakhalin Huskies of the 1959 Antarctic Expedition
Japanese Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
CLICK!


YOU'RE JUST LIKE ME.

IT'D BE LAME TO COME ALL THE WAY TO TOKYO AND JUST TURN RIGHT AROUND, SO I FIGURED I MIGHT AS WELL SEE THE SIGHTS, BUT...
820 YEN, HUH...

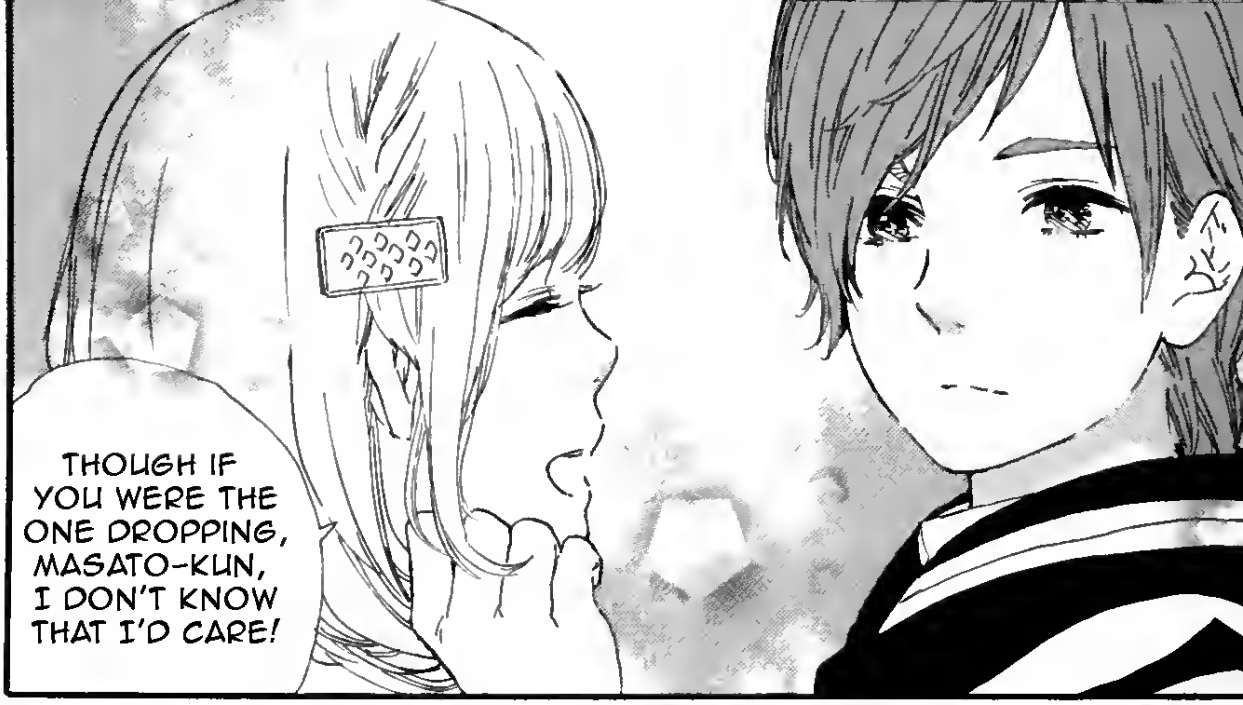
THERE'S NOTHING BUT COUPLES HERE...!!

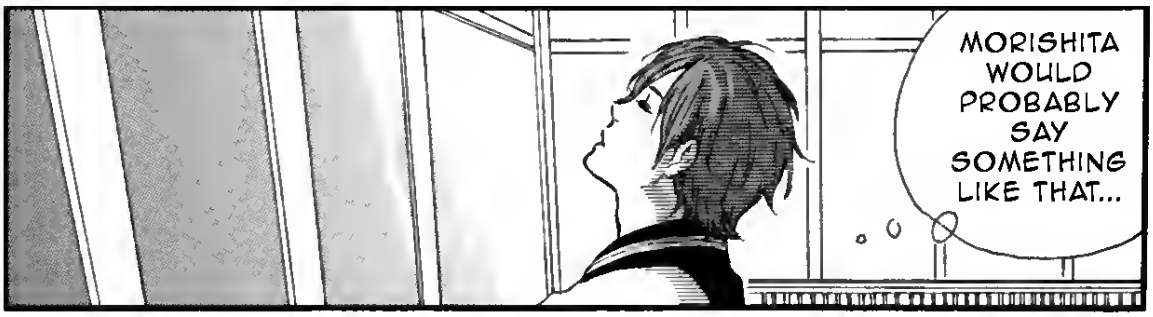
ME, THAT'S WHO!!

GUESS THAT'S TO BE EXPECTED... WHAT SINGLE GUY WOULD GO UP TOKYO TOWER BY HIMSELF?

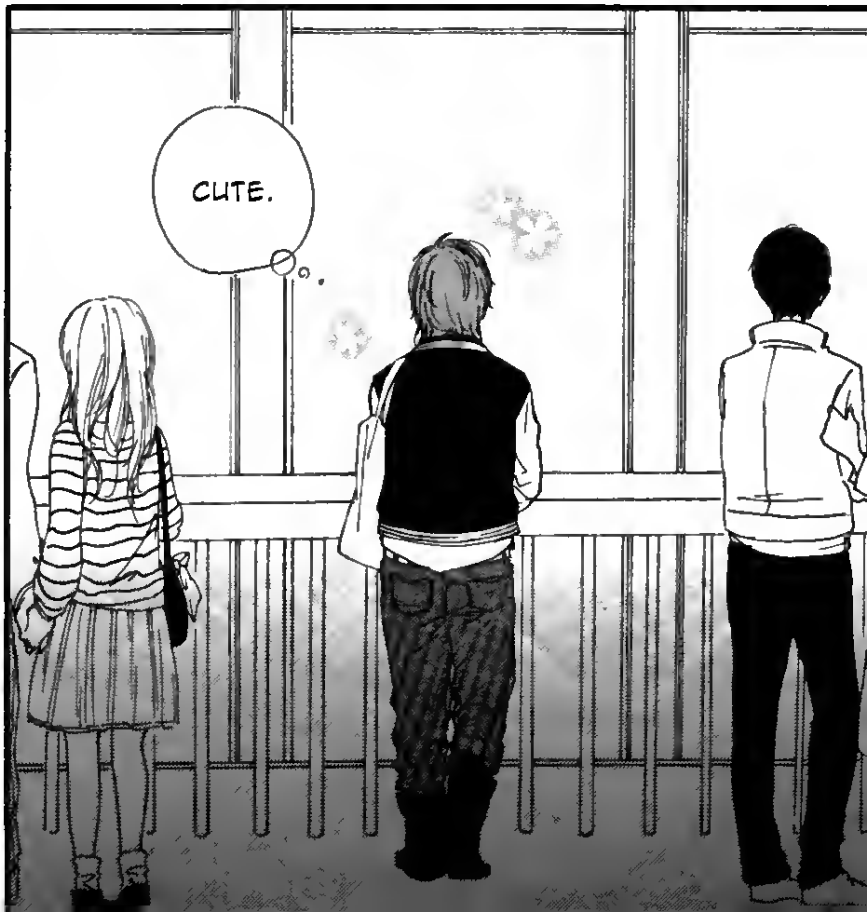
OOH! IT'S SO PRETTY!!
twitch

IT'S PRETTY, ISN'T IT?
WELL, SHE'S NOT WRONG. IT IS PRETTY.
I'M HALLUCI-NATING...
IT'S QUITE A DROP.
HEH HEH! PRETTY AMAZING.


THOUGH IF YOU WERE THE ONE DROPPING, MASATO-KUN, I DON'T KNOW THAT I'D CARE!


MORISHITA WOULD PROBABLY SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT...

I'M SERIOUSLY GETTING DROPPED!
Hang in there!


CUTE.

まんがの作り方

MANGA NO TSUKURIKATA

Yuri Project

Translation: Gulf Standard
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